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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Harpers Ferry National Monument
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

March 24, 1959

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Superintendent, Harpers Ferry National Monument

Subject: Research Report, Paymaster's Quarters, Research Project
No. HF-74

Enclosed please find four copies of the "Research Report, History of Paymaster's Quarters, Camp Hill, ("Lockwood" House, Storer College), Harpers Ferry, 1848-1867," dated March 23, 1959, 29 pages. This report has been prepared by Historian Philip R. Smith, Jr.

You will note on page 12 a description of the Hall garden which will perhaps be of use in restoring the Harper Garden as Dr. Nicholas Marmion married Lydia J. Hall, daughter of Captain John H. Hall in July, 1839.

[SGD] FRANK H. ANDERSON

Frank H. Anderson
Superintendent

In duplicate

B&W Scans

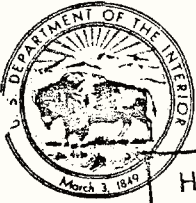
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Region Five
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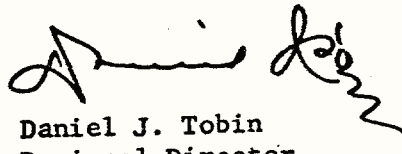
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Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Harpers Ferry National Monument
From: Regional Director
Subject: Research Report, Paymaster's Quarters *HF-74*

The Regional Historian finds this a very good report indeed, and Mr. Smith is to be congratulated on the improvement shown in his work. We were glad to see the careful distinction made between the earlier Hall House and the later Paymaster's House. And, interpretively, it is most interesting to note that the latter was used as Sheridan's headquarters in 1864.


Daniel J. Tobin
Regional Director

In duplicate

Copy to: Director, w/attachment

RESEARCH REPORT

HISTORY OF

PAYMASTER'S QUARTERS, CAMP HILL,

("LOCKWOOD" HOUSE, STORER COLLEGE)

HARPERS FERRY, 1848-1867

Harpers Ferry National Monument

Prepared by:

Philip R. Smith, Jr.
Philip R. Smith, Jr.

Park Historian

Dated March 23, 1959

29 Pages

Project No. HF-74

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SECTION I - PAYMASTER'S QUARTERS

1. OWNERSHIP OF THE LAND

The lot on which the Paymaster's house was to be erected was a part of the property purchased on June 15, 1796, by the United States from John Wager, Senior, for the purpose of establishing a Federal Armory at Harpers Ferry.¹ It was granted by the United States in 1867 to Storer College.

2. CONSTRUCTION OF THE PAYMASTER'S QUARTERS

The Estimates for 1846-47 included the sum of \$15,000 for the construction² of quarters for the commanding officer and for the paymaster-storekeeper. These were stated necessary since the quarters formerly used by these two officers were now unfit for that purpose.

A request had been submitted in the previous year's estimates for the sum of \$9,539 for the construction of quarters for the superintendent but this³ was not granted. This would indicate that the approximate initial cost of the paymaster's quarters was estimated to be \$6,000.

Superintendent Symington informed Col. Talcott on August 20, 1846:

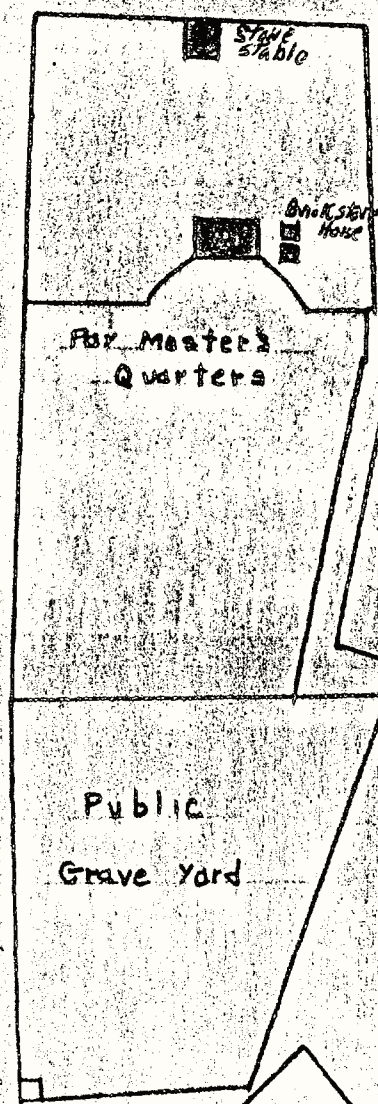
"The sites for the commanding officers and paymaster's quarters at this armory (the erection of which appears to be provided for in the armory appropriation late (sic) just passed) will necessarily have to be on the hills above the shops where supplies of water cannot be obtained but at great inconvenience it is contemplated therefore to construct cisterns to receive the water falling from the roofs at each of those buildings of capacity sufficient for a full supply for all domestic purposes, and especially to serve in the event of fire, occurring. I propose to add to each a small force pump with lead pipe leading if necessary to a small cistern on or near the roof. The whole apparatus for both buildings will not exceed a cost of \$300, and I

1. Deed, June 15, 1796, Wager to U. S., National Archives, Reel 21, V.7, p.704-708.

2. Estimates for 1846-1847, Reel 20, V.7, p.657-658.

3. Estimates for 1845-1846, Reel 20, V.7, p.652.

MAP OF HARPERS FERRY
Prepared in compliance
with letter to Major
Symington, April 22, 1848.
Revised by Symington,
Jan, 1851.



-2-
CHURCH

respectfully request that you will, if you see no objections to it authorize the expenditures." 4

Captain William Maynadier, of the Ordnance Office, replied on August 22, 1846, that no further funds could be allocated for the two buildings and the \$300 for the cisterns should come out of the \$15,000 that had been appropriated for constructing the two quarters and the additional \$2,000 available for building cisterns for rainwater at the houses. 5

In April, 1847, the clearing of the site for the construction of the paymaster's quarters was authorized by the Secretary of War, and the former residence of Joh H. Hall, then occupied by Mr. A. M. Kitzmiller, was demolished. 6

On May 25, 1847, Major Symington submitted the plans for the new quarters for the paymaster, to the Chief of Ordnance, George Talcott, accompanying them with the following remarks:

"...The building will be erected on the summit of a knoll, the ground falling on all sides, so that its low elevation compared with the extent of the front, will not offend the eye. The floors of the lowermost rooms will be 3½ feet about below the surface of the ground, which at this place is the out-cropping slate rock and very dry. These rooms consequently will be found to be dry at all times.

P.S. A skylight in the roof will give light to the dining room." 7

Colonel Talcott replied on May 28, 1847, that the Secretary of War had approved the plans for the new house and directed Symington to proceed with its construction. 8

4. Symington to Talcott, August 20, 1846, Reel 23, V.7, p.682.

5. Maynadier to Symington, August 22, 1846, Reel 19, p.265.

6. Talcott to Symington, April 22, 1847, Reel 19, V.3, p.289-290.

7. Symington to Talcott, May 25, 1847, Reel 23, V.9, p.822.

8. Talcott to Symington, May 28, 1847, Reel 19, V.3, p.302.

The estimate of funds for 1848-49 fiscal year included the sum of \$170 for a cistern at the paymaster's quarters because this house, together with others on the hill was so far removed from supplies of water in case of fire. 9

Major Symington wrote to Colonel Talcott on August 11, 1848, regarding the new quarters for the paymaster:

"With regard to the paymaster's quarters (not yet completed) some necessary expenditures have already been incurred to make them habitable, not previously estimated for, these are, the construction of an out building for wood & coal and privies, completing the enclosure. These quarters are on the same site of those formerly occupied by Capt. Hall. The grounds are improved and garden made so that a trifling expense will put them in proper order.

The whole amount expended for materials and labor of all kinds in the construction of the quarters for the Comd. Officer and the paymaster in checking the out buildings, and for improving grounds about them is, up to this date \$18,808.80, and it is estimated that a farther sum will be necessary to complete the paymaster's quarters including the necessary repairs to the stable and fences of \$2,900, making an expenditure of \$6,708.80 over the sum originally appropriated for the dwelling houses only, for this excess an item will be found in the annual estimate to be presented in due course, to replace the amount to the credit of other objects from which the sum has been borrowed.

The excess of expenditure over the amount appropriated is not owing to extravagance in the style of building as charged but in part to causes already explained and to others not foreseen or considered where the original estimate was made, and will presently shew. Both these buildings conform to the plans made for them and to the style of work estimated for except in two particulars, over that a book case has been made to fill the space in one of the lower rooms between the chimney stack and wall the door frame of which are of black walnut, at $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents per foot...."

Symington went on to say, presumably about the furniture in both houses:

"The washstands and wardrobes are of pine painted on the exterior, the former are shelves or benches fitted in to recesses (?) or against the wall, the latter clothes presses filling recesses such as are found in all decently constructed dwellings.

The kitchen range is the same that was authorized to be purchased not only for this but the paymasters quarters also." 11

9. Estimate of funds for 1848, Reel 20, V.7, p.668.
10. Symington to Talcott, August 11, 1848, Reel 23, V.10, p.978-85.
11. Ibid.

Symington continued and gave the reasons for the excess in expenditure for both houses:

"One cause for the excess of expenditure...being explained, I have now to shew another. The estimate was made before any work of this kind has been done high up on the hill, based on the prices paid for similar work below, the contractor more practically estimating the difficulties of the steep and long ascent up which his sand, lime and water had to be hauled, charged accordingly, that is from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 dollars more per thousand for laying bricks than work of the same character would have been charged below, where these difficulties did not exist. To this cost is also to be added that paid for hauling the bricks up $1\frac{1}{2}$ dollars per thousand, and in this proportion for other materials used about the buildings. I regret that this deficiency has occurred, but in making estimates correct results cannot always be obtained however close the attention given..." 12

In the Statement of Operations for 1847-1848 it is mentioned that the paymaster's quarters were nearly completed:

"The quarters for the Pay master are now under roof and will be completed before the close of September. The dwelling house is 56 $4/12$ X 39 $9/12$, one story of brick upon a high basement story of stone. -- Cut stone water table, copper gutter and spouting and roofed with sheet tin. An outbuilding 18 X 20 feet of brick, one story covered with shingles--and also a rain water cistern capable of holding 12000 gallons together with the necessary drains, conductors, &c, have been made in connection with this building." 13

The estimates for the year ending June 30, 1850, listed the sum of \$3,645 as necessary for the completion of the paymaster's quarters and necessary outbuildings. The reasons given for this additional money were:

"The original estimate for Officers' quarters was based upon prices paid for laying brick in the shops which had been erected on the river bank; but the more elevated site of the quarters on the hill, rendering it necessary to haul all the materials, used in their construction, up a steep ascent, the cost was thereby so increased as to require this addition to the previous estimate." 14

The building was finished shortly afterward and is shown on the 1848

12. Symington to Talcott, August 11, 1848, Reel 23, V.10, p.978-85.

13. Major Symington to Secretary of War Marcy, November 14, 1846, Reel 20, V.1, p.36.

14. Estimates for year ending June 30, 1850, Reel 20, V.7, p.575.

map of Harpers Ferry. The lot was reserved from the 1852 sale of Government land and the reserved land is shown on Brown's 1852 map.

Additions to the House, 1858

By 1858, it was decided to build a second story on the building. Col. Craig of the Ordnance Office submitted an estimate of the cost of alterations on the building and accompanied it with the following letter:

"I herewith submit for your consideration and recommend for your approval an Estimate of the cost of alterations which are deemed proper to be made in the dwelling house of the Pay Master of the Harpers Ferry Armory-- The Funds on hand at the Armory applicable to such a purpose to be used. At present the House consists of a Basement partly under ground and one story above for family use-- The Kitchen and Servants Rooms being in the Basement which are damp and unhealthy; it is therefore proposed to constructed an upper story to the building and excavate an area around the Basement to make that portion of it more habitable." 15

The specifications for this addition will be found in Appendix I.

On June 23, 1858, Superintendent Clowe wrote to Col. Craig pointing out that the season for construction was fast passing and work should be started on the alteration of the paymaster's quarters as soon as possible. 16

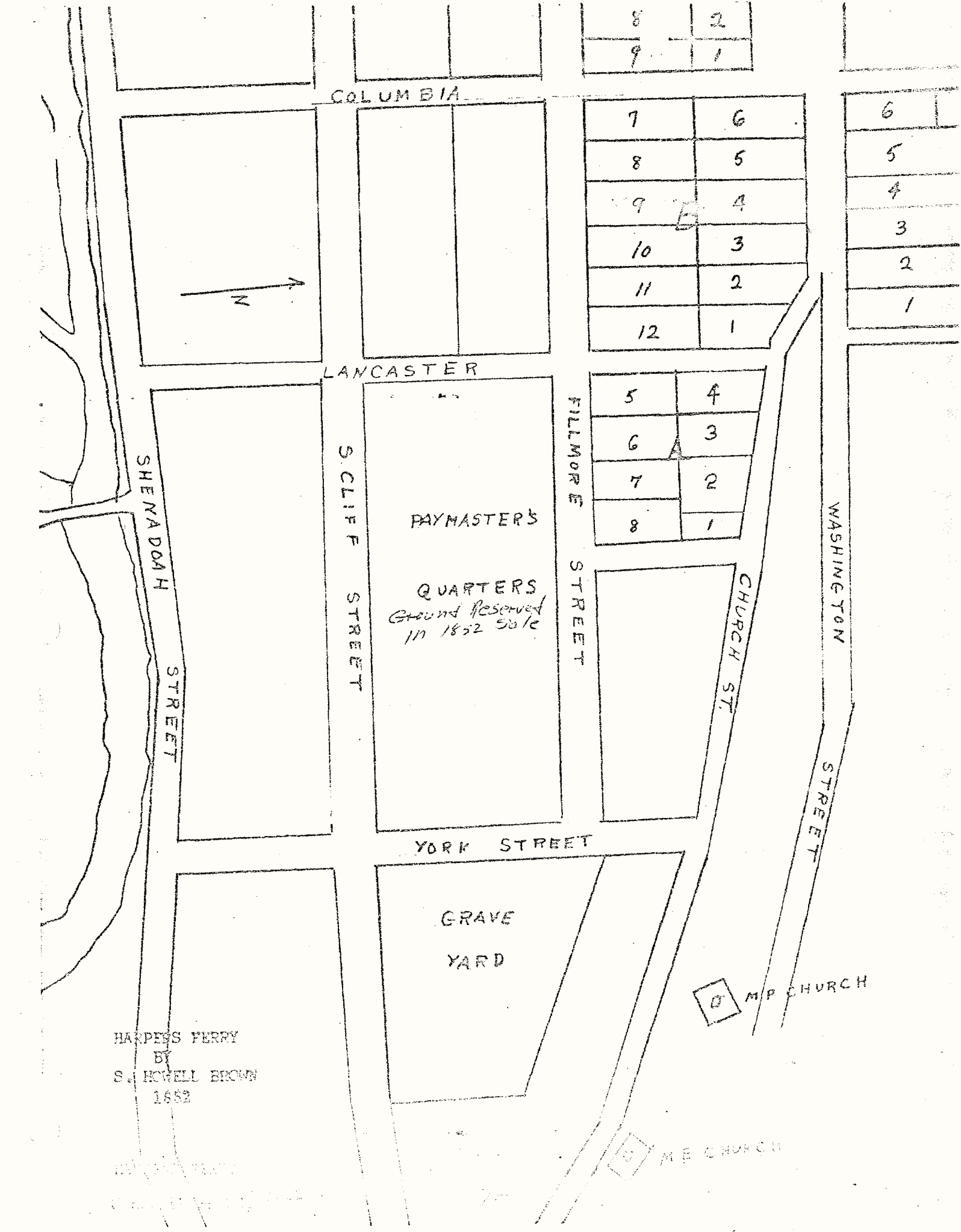
On July 22, 1858, Colonel Craig directed Mr. Clowe to proceed with the alteration of the paymaster's quarters. 17

On September 27, 1858, Superintendent Clowe stated: "The work on the paymaster's quarters is rapidly progressing to completion...and the paymaster is desirous of occupying his this autumn." Mr. Clowe also submitted an estimate for additional improvements amounting to \$1,500; of this total \$200 was

15. Craig to Secretary of War J. B. Floyd, June 4, 1858, Reel 20, V.7, p.675.

16. Clowe to Craig, June 23, 1858, Photostats, V.3, p.84.

17. Craig to Clowe, July 22, 1858, Reel 19, V.10, p.980.



to be used for a rain water cistern, \$75 for whitewashing fences and \$1,225
to be used for the construction of three stables, and two smoke and fuel houses
for the quarters of the paymaster, master armorer and two clerks. 18

Colonel Craig, however, refused this request on October 8, 1858, stating
that there were no funds available for this purpose. 19

The second floor was thus added in 1858. There were ten windows on the
second floor and a door opening out on the two story front porch on the west
side. There were approximately the same number of windows in the first floor.
The house had a slate roof. 20

Stable

Superintendent Barbour renewed the request for a new stable for the pay-
master's quarters in 1860:

"You will remember that there is an old rough cast stable upon the back (?)
grounds of the Paymaster's Quarters. I understand that it was intended that
this old and almost useless building should be taken down and a new stable
built upon the lot. I know of no special appropriations for it but presume
you intend to have it done out of the funds for repairs and improvements...
It is much needed both for use and appearance. You will please express your
wish upon the subject and indicate what sort of a stable shall be put up,
what cost, &c. I will then have plans made & sent you." 21

Col. Craig answered:

18. Clowe to Craig, September 27, 1858, Photostats, V.3, p.75.

19. Clowe to Craig, October 4, 1858, R.G. 156, OCO Document File 1797-1894
Box No. 161, No. 418 National Archives; October 6, 1858, No. 424. Craig to
Clowe, October 8, 1858, Reel 19, V.10, p.993.

20. Estimate of costs to paymaster's quarters, June 2, 1959, Reel 27, V.1,
p.63.

21. Barbour to Craig, August 6, 1861, Reel 27, V.8, p.810.

"With regard to the removal of the old Stable from the vicinity of the Pay Masters House, it should be preceded by the erection of another in a more suitable place, unless the pay Master can dispense with such a convenience until the necessary funds can be procured and other arrangements can be made for building it. It will be well to include the probable cost of such a building in your Estimate of Funds for the next Fiscal year, say not to exceed \$600." 22

In line with Colonel Craig's directive Superintendent Barbour submitted an estimate of \$2,000 in the following years estimates, giving as his reasons;

"The funds for the construction of these quarters (For the Master Armorer and two clerks) derived altogether from the (1852) sale of lots at the Armory, having been exhausted in the erection of the buildings themselves, no outside conveniences such as a stable, meat-house or other necessary building of a ^{convenient} stable for the paymaster, and the removal, from the present site, of the old ^{stable} stable on his premises erected thirty years ago and for like purposes at the other quarters. The erection of these outhouses is rendered the more essential through the fact that these quarters are far removed, except that of the Master Armorer, from the business part of the town, and the tenants suffer great inconvenience from the want of needful supplies which cannot be secured 23 in advance in consequence of having no suitable places in which to store them."

These new outbuildings, however, were never to be built because the Civil War was soon to break out and the business of the armory was to cease with the seizure by Confederate forces. The paymaster's quarters were among the government buildings badly damaged during the war, as was noted in the July 27, 1865, inspection report of Harpers Ferry:

"...The costly quarters of the Superintendent of the Armory, of the paymaster, and other conspicuous and valuable buildings belonging to the government, have been wantonly abused, and I am sorry to say, as I am credibly informed, mostly by our own troops. Marble mantle pieces have been taken away; and the stair cases torn down and used as fuel. To repair these buildings will involve an expense of at least one half of their original cost." 24

22. Craig to Barbour, August 14, 1860, Reel 19, p.1146.

23. Estimate for 1861-1862, R.G. 156 OCO, Estimate Book No. 51, p.76-77.

24. Inspection Report of Harpers Ferry dated July 27, 1865, R.G. 156.

3. USE OF PAYMASTER'S QUARTERS, 1848-1867

The Paymaster's Quarters were used from the time of their construction in 1848 to 1861 as the residence for the paymaster of the Armory. Paymaster Edward Lucas, Jr., thus lived in the house from 1848 until his death in 1858. The next occupant of the house was Paymaster Dennis Murphy who lived in the house from 1858 until the outbreak of the Civil War.

Murphy is listed in the 1860 census as 49 years of age, paymaster in the U. S. Armory, value of real estate, \$3,000, value of personal estate, \$6,000; Born in Maryland. His family consisted of his wife Margarete, 46, born in Maryland, Annelin B, 18, born in Virginia; Ellen S., 16, born in Maryland, James B., 13, born in Maryland, Belle F., 8, Born in Maryland; and Maggie C., 5, born in Maryland.

In September, 1864, this house was used by General Philip H. Sheridan, U. S. Army, as his headquarters while at Harpers Ferry.

In 1865, the house is described as: "Dwelling House No. 32, Brick, two story-Pay Master's Quarters - In bad condition, occupied by the Medical Purveyor as quarter."

In 1867 the house was turned over to Storer College.

25. Talcott to Symington, May 13, 1847, Reel 19, V.3, p.297; Clowe to Craig, March 5, 1858, Reel 26, V.7, p.645.

26. Maynadier to Murphy, May 17, 1858, Reel 19, V.10, p.971; Secretary of War, Cameron to Secretary of the Treasury Chase, April 23, 1861, Reel 27, V.12, p.1134.

27. Census of 1860, Reel 10, V.2, p.186.

28. Photograph HP-341.

29. 1865 Inspection Inventory of Harpers Ferry Armory, Brig. Genl. Edward D. Ramsay to Brig. Genl. A. B. Dyer, Chief of Ordnance, July 27, 1865, National Archives R.G. 156-1, Harpers Ferry Photostatic Collection, Map Case, Dr. No. 10.

4. HISTORICAL PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Five photographs of the Paymasters Quarters will be found in Appendix II of this report.

5. HISTORICAL PLANS OF THE PAYMASTER'S QUARTERS

A careful search of the National Archives has failed to turn up any of the original plans of the paymaster's quarters. For modern measured drawings of the building see Historic American Buildings Survey, The Paymaster's Quarters, Harpers Ferry, 1958, 17 sheets.

6. SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL DATA

A. Ownership of the Land

The lot on which the paymaster's quarters were erected was owned by the United States from 1796 until 1867.

B. Construction of the Building

The paymaster's house was erected in 1847-1848 as a one story brick building. The structure was designed by Major John Symington, Superintendent. In 1858 a second story was added to the house. Plans for this change were prepared by Superintendent Henry W. Clowe. The house, in 1859, was thus a two story brick building with dimensions of 56 feet, four inches by 39 feet, nine inches, and ^{had} a slate roof. There was a two story columned porch on the front (west side) of the building, with doors opening out onto it from the first and second stories. There was also a small porch on the east side. The house had two chimneys on the north and south sides of the roof. To the north of the house stood a one story brick store room, 18 feet by 20 feet in size, with a wood shingle roof, also a large cistern. At a distance to the west of the main house stood an old stone rough cast stable dating from Captain

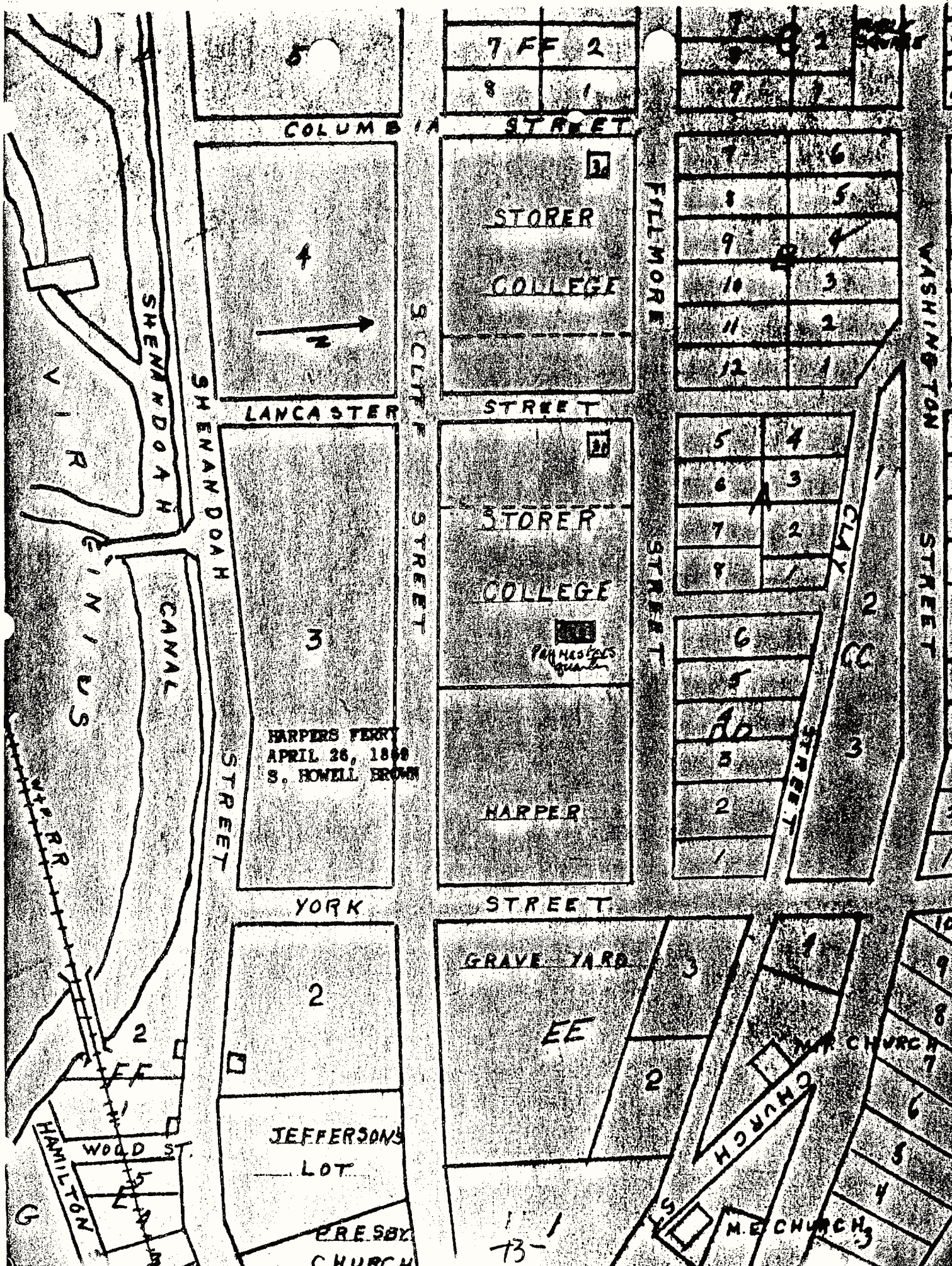
Hall's time. The grounds around the house had been extensively landscaped and planted by Captain John H. Hall and these early improvements were rehabilitated in 1847-48. William Hall, John H. Hall's son, in asking for payment for improvements that his father had made on the house, gave a very good description of the grounds. He wrote:

"Its present beauty and elegance, & comfort is owing almost entirely to his arrangement & has been effected at his expense. He has enclosed nearly two acres of land divided it by good fences into gardens and yards cleared it of rocks & bushes with which it was entirely covered, levelled the inequalities and arranged in steps the declivities, made a soil by hauling fertile earth from a distance, and placed the whole in this present state of cultivation. My father has also planted more than one hundred trees producing the choicest fruits of the climate. Nearly an equal number of grape vines of the most valuable kinds, known in America & Europe all of which are in a very flourishing condition and heavily ornamented this such as.. In addition to these, there is a great variety of the most rare & beautiful flowers, & shrubbery;-- Asparagus and strawberry beds &c. The principal expense of which is in the setting..." 30

The many large trees surrounding the house may be seen in photograph HF-47, which was taken in 1861 before the trees were chopped down by the troops. Numerous changes were made to the house between 1894 and 1907. The front porch was lowered to one story and a porch was extended around the north side of the house. A third story was added with a captain's walk on the roof. These alterations may be seen on the 1894 and 1907 Sanborn Maps of Harpers Ferry.

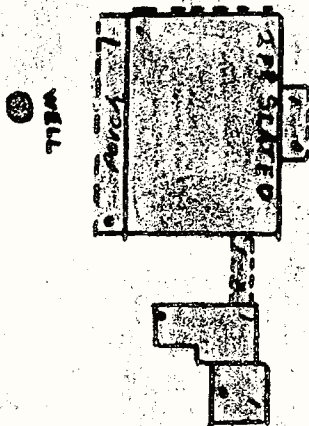
C. Use of the Building

The building was used from 1848 until the Civil War as a residence for the paymasters of the Armory. Edward Lucas, Jr., lived in it from 1848 until the time of his death in 1858. Dr. Dennis Murphy then occupied the house from 1858 until the outbreak of the Civil War. The house was used as a headquarters by General Philip H. Sheridan in 1864. In 1867 the house was turned over to Storer College.



FILLMORE AVE

LOCKWOOD MO.

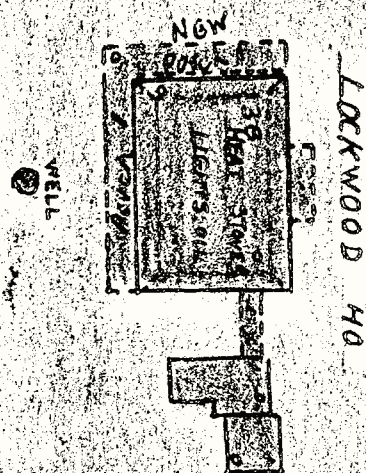


TOP OF STEEP SLOPE

500' TO SHENANDOAH RIVER

SANBORN-PERRIS
MAP OF HARPERS FERRY
NOVEMBER, 1894.

FILLMORE AVENUE



TOP OF STEEP BANK

500' TO SHENANDOAH RIVER



SANBORN MAP OF
HARPERS FERRY
SEPTEMBER, 1907

SECTION II - JOHN H. HALL'S RESIDENCE, 1819-1840

1. OWNERSHIP OF THE LAND

John H. Hall came to the Harpers Ferry Armory in April, 1819, to establish¹
a factory to produce his new patent rifle.

Captain Hall remained at Harpers Ferry manufacturing the Hall rifle at
the Rifle Factory until January 14, 1840, when he requested leave of absence²
for reasons of health. He left the Armory in 1840 never to return and died³
on March 26, 1841, in Missouri.

Hall was apparently given as his quarters a Government dwelling house
standing on Camp Hill, the location of which may be seen on the 1833 Map on
the following page.

Hall's contract was renewed in 1827. He therefore sought to improve his
quarters now that he was certain of an extended stay in Harpers Ferry. He
addressed a request for additions to his quarters to the Ordnance Office, through
Superintendent Stubblefield, stating:

"Mr. Hall would inform Mr. Stubblefield that the addition to his house
which the former desires and the barn which he wishes to have erected will
cost, built substantially, about twelve hundred dollars-- He would thank Mr.
S. to make application to the Ordnance Office for these erections to that amount,
to be taken out of the sum allotted for Mr. Hall's business...." 4

This request was forwarded by Stubblefield to the Ordnance Office in a

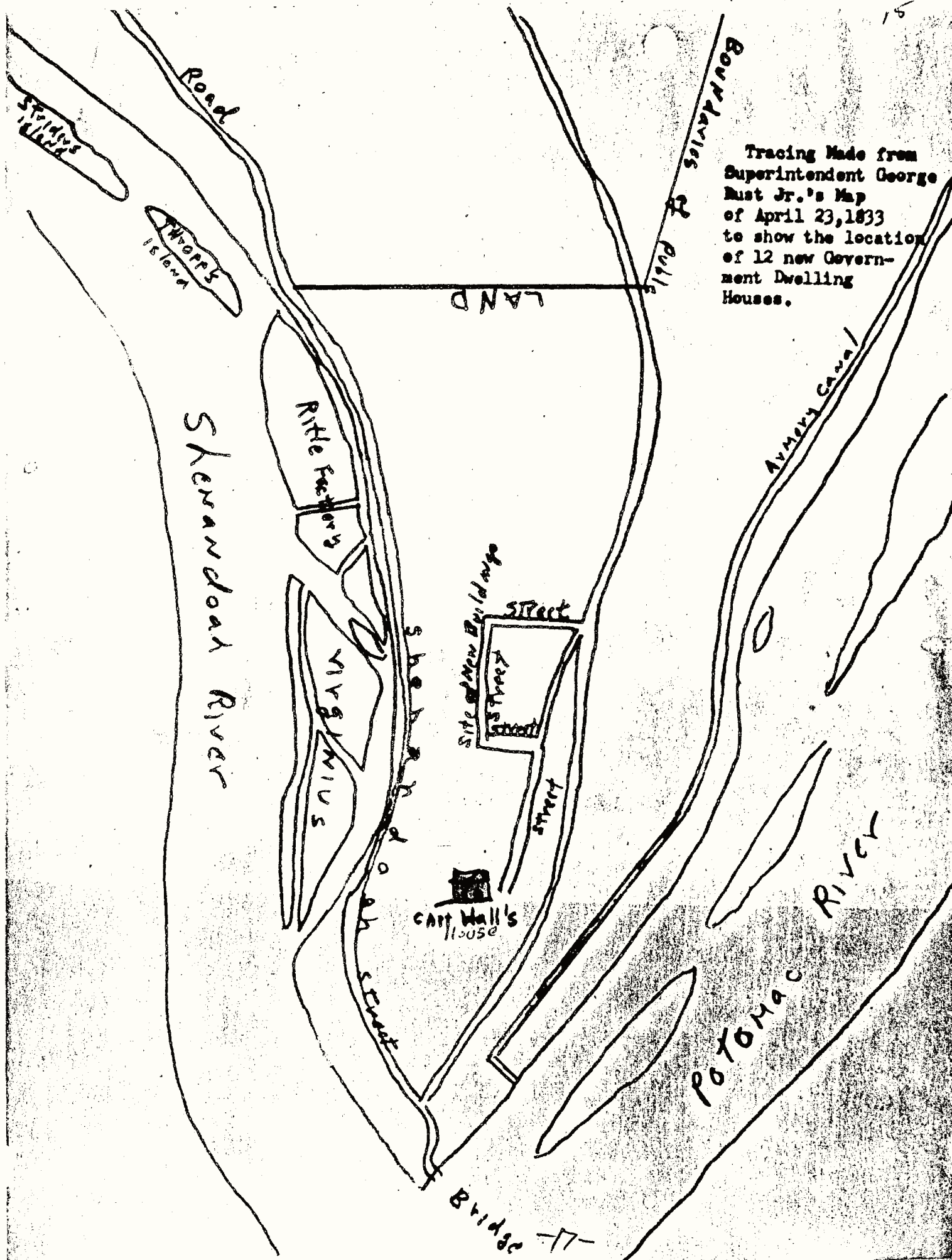
1. Wadsworth to Stubblefield, April 19, 1819, Reel 14, V.3, p.211, National
Archives R.G.

2. Hall to Col. Talcott, Ordnance Office, January 14, 1840, Reel 12, V.6,
p.605-607.

3. Virginia Free Press, April 1, 1841, p.3, c.1.

4. J. H. Hall to Superintendent Stubblefield, June 21, 1827, Reel 22, V.2,
p.114.

Tracing Made from
Superintendent George
Rust Jr.'s Map
of April 23, 1833
to show the location
of 12 new Govern-
ment Dwelling
Houses.



letter of June 22, 1827.

Hall, probably impatient of delay, wrote directly himself on June 25, 1827, to Colonel Bomford:

"My accomodation from the time of my arrival here have always been very much circumscribed, but I forbore to complain of the want of room for my family, from a solicitude to avoid every circumstance that might, by possibility, interfere with the successful prosecution of my business until it should be in a condition to stand securely on its own merits, that time had arrived last winter, and I was then about asking for an addition to my house which is very small being but 16 by 24 feet, exclusive of its porch when my strong impressions of the embarrassed state of the Armory prevented it, and produced a determination to delay the request to another year, but several circumstances have of late conspired to effect a change in my intentions as to that point, among other, two of my principal workmen are about leaving me, whose knowledge of the management of my business & machines enabled them to lighten my labors, & leave me at liberty to direct a portion of my attention to the arrangement of my papers and other precautionary steps, with a view to ensuring the successful prosecution of my business in other hands in case of my removal by death, or its becoming necessary from any other cause--My attention to those points will therefore have to be entirely suspended at this time, unless facilities are afforded for attending to them in my house, at home, and this can only be effected by furnishing me with an additional room to which I may retire & pursue my purpose with unbroken attention-- in conjunction with this addition I would request leave to add one room and one chamber to my house both of which are necessary for our comfortable accomodation--

The barn attached to my lot is but twelve feet square, it is so small as to oblige me to keep my hay out in the open air, exposed to the winds & weather, I wish to obtain permission to erect one of about 25 feet square-- The cost of the above mentioned addition, if made in a substantial manner will be about one thousand and two hundred dollars-- it has been so stated to the Superintendent whose application, it is presumed, has been forwarded to the Ordnance Office--The amount can be shared from that allotted for my business this year, without injury to it, and will not I trust, be considered such as to prevent a compliance with my request." 6

Col. George Bomford granted permission to make the additions on Hall's house and to erect a barn on August 15, 1827. 7

5. Stubblefield to Bomford, June 22, 1827, Reel 22, V.2, p.112.

6. Hall to Bomford, June 25, 1827, Reel 22, V.1, p.70-72.

7. Hall to Bomford, August 15, 1827, Reel 22, V.1, p.76; Bomford to Stubblefield, August 22, 1827, Reel 14, V.6, p.528.

Hall again felt cramped for space in 1832, as he wrote in March, 1832:

"The house in which I reside would be benefitted by adding to it a washing room the cost of which would be about two hundred & fifty dollars-- I would request permission to erect these appendages & to insert in the brick work of the latter a kettle; having sheet copper on hand suitable for it, which is not needed for any other purpose..." 8

Hall evidently did not receive permission to build the additions on his house because he renewed his request in the following year. 9

On March 23, 1836, Hall requested permission to use a small building near his residence as a kitchen:

"Within a few yards of the house in which I reside here, is a small one story building, erected in the first instance, for an appendage to that house-- When my family first came to Harpers Ferry this small building was occupied by a poor family whose removal from it was not then urged as it would have been productive of much inconvenience to them-- & they have continued in it to this time--they now expect to leave it, in the course of the present spring-- when they do, I would request the favor of having it applied to the purpose for which it was first intended, that of an appendage to the house in which my family resides for which it is now much needed for a kitchen & workhouse--

The house above referred to is very much in the way of Capt. Hall and I consider his request reasonable.

George Rust, Jr., Supt." 10

Permission was granted to Hall to occupy the house on April 12, 1836. 11

When John H. Hall left the Harpers Ferry Armory in 1840, his son sought to secure payment for the improvements that Hall had made to his residence from the United States Government. Thus William A. Hall wrote on November 12, 1840, regarding the improvements that his father had made on the house and grounds that he had occupied. He stated that his father had made all improvement

8. Hall to Bomford, March, 1832, Reel 22, V.12, p.1173.

9. Hall to Bomford, March 30, 1833, Reel 22, V.13, p.1284.

10. Hall to Bomford, March 23, 1836, Reel 12, V.2, p.186.

11. Bomford to Rust, April 12, 1836, Reel 14, V.11, p.1045.

on the house and grounds at his own expense. He had enclosed and landscaped two acres of ground. He had planted more than one hundred fruit trees and as many grape vines. He had also laid out flower beds and shrubbery as well as asparagus and strawberry beds.

In addition he had paved walks and improved the interior of the house by
12
erecting marble mantles over the fireplaces and papering the rooms.

William A. Hall again wrote on November 29, 1840, to Col. Talcott of the Ordnance Office:

"In compliance with your letter to Col. Lucas, three gentlemen appraised such improvements, as they thought came under the limitations you prescribed. They also at my request made an estimate of the value of the fruit trees, vines, &c. which they did not think included in the terms of your letter-- I made the request in order that you might take into consideration the propriety of allowing my father for these improvements also. They add to the value of the public property-- There is no man who would not give more for it, if sold, or pay a higher rent in consideration of them.

Making an allowance for them cannot establish an injurious precedent, because of late years, through an order of the Superintendent a general understanding prevails that government will make no allowance for improvements on public property not expressly authorized; It could not in any case be used as a precedent except by officers entitled to quarters, because the allowance can with propriety be put on the grounds that it was for the improvement of quarters which Government supplies. Whereas with renters the landlord is not considered answerable for the comfort of the premises.-- In every case but my father's too, the quarters furnished, were supplied with whatever was necessary for comfort.-- In his case whatever of comfort there is, has been in a great measure, his own creation.

I am authorized by your letter to remove such improvements, as may not be allowed for or sell them to the next incumbent. We did not expect a compensation for the flowers, shrubbery, with the regard to the other productions which the appraisers did not think were meant to be included by your letter, the removal of them would greatly damage the public property and be of but little benefit to myself;-- The injury which the articles would receive, and the expense of the removal would probably exceed the amount for which I could sell them. The other alternative of selling them to the next occupant is impractical. No man holding office under the present precarious tenure, expecting a dismissal on a change of administration, would be willing to give an amount in any degree proportioned to their value. Mr. Kitzmiller who will take the house is neither able nor willing to do it. I hope Sir these considerations

12. Lucas to Talcott, November 12, 1840, Reel 12, V.8, p.726-730; William A. Hall to Lucas, November 26, 1846, Reel 19, V.1, p.14.

will induce you to allow a compensation, for the fruit trees, vines, and the expense of converting a barren into a fertile soil, which the appraisers did not feel authorized to include in their valuation

My father's connection with Government which, with his life now seems rapidly drawing to a close has been any thing but profitable to him. His hopes of reward from Congress are nearly extinct--and the only sources from which he can expect to derive support for his declining days are the remains, which his salary, soon to expire, & the allowance for his expenditures for the public benefit may afford him. I have deemed it my duty in acting for my father to make these representations. I hope they will have weight with you." 13

The Secretary of War approved Hall's claims for improvements to his house
14
on December 4, 1840.

John Hall's residence was torn down in 1847 to make way for the construction of the new quarters for the paymaster's quarters.

2. USE OF THE BUILDING, 1819-1847

The building was occupied from 1819 to 1840 as the residence of John H. Hall. The building was then used as the residence of the Superintendent's Clerk, A. M. Kitzmiller, from 1840 to 1847. The building was torn down in 1847 to make way for the construction of the paymaster's clerk's residence.

3. HISTORICAL PRINTS AND PLANS

No historical prints or plans of the house have been found.

4. SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL DATA

Hall's residence was probably one of those Government dwelling houses on the 1821 list of Armory buildings. There were four buildings listed as
15
being 24 by 16 feet, one story, and constructed of wood. Hall was probably

13. William A. Hall to Col. Talcott, November 29, 1840, Reel 12, V.7, p.612-614.

14. Symington to Lucas, December 2, 1840, Reel 19, V.1, p.15; Symington to Secretary of War Poinsett, December 3, 1840, Reel 19, V.14, p.1356; Talcott to Lucas, December 4, 1840, Reel 19, V.1, p.16.

living in one of these buildings from 1819 to 1827. Hall added two rooms to the house in 1827, and in 1833 he added a brick wash room. After 1836 he used a small one story building within a few yards of his house for a kitchen and work house. He also improved the inside of the house by papering the rooms and building marble mantels over the fireplaces.

The grounds about the house consisted of two acres and were extensively landscaped by Hall, including paved walks, a grove of fruit trees and grape vines. The garden included flowers and shrubbery as well as vegetables, asparagus and strawberries.

Besides the main house and kitchen there was also a rough cast stone stable 25 feet square erected by Hall in 1827. In addition there was a smoke house.

Use of the Building

The building was used from 1819, until 1840 as a residence for John H. Hall. From 1840 until 1847, when the building was razed, it served as the residence of Mr. A..M. Kitzmiller, the Superintendent's Clerk.

Philip R. Smith, Jr.

Philip R. Smith, Jr.
Historian
March 23, 1959

15. Statement of the number and dimensions of the buildings at the United States Armory at Harpers Ferry, Virginia, together with the materials of which they are built, and their estimated value, p.482-483, Reel 17, V.3, pp.204-205.

APPENDIX I

Estimated Cost of Addition to Paymaster's Quarters at the Harpers Ferry Armory

June 3, 1858

3600 Bricks.	@ 12¢	\$540.00
6000 feet Lumber.	@ 3¢ pr. sq. ft.	180.00
4168 feet Joints	@ 1 1/2¢ "	62.52
500 " Lintels	@ " "	7.50
1000 " Studding	@ " "	15.00
2700 " Slating	@ 9\$ pdg	243.00
860 Yards Plastering	@ 25¢ yd.	215.00
10 Window Sills.	@ 3\$ ea.	30.00
Painting Glazing & materials		225.00
Hardware & Nails		40.00
Material for Pantry		18.00
" " Gallery		70.00
" " Portico		40.00
2500 feet Flooring.	@ 3¢ (?)	45.00
1200 " Stud partition	@ 1¢ "	12.00
10 Double Bay Windows	@ 10\$ ea	110.00
Framing joints		40.00
4 Wardrobes	@ 10\$ ea	40.00
Washboards		20.00
Stairs		180.00
Doors and Jambs		40.00
4 Mantels		24.00
Roofing		80.00
Front Portico		100.00
Back Gallery		150.00
Pantry		25.00
Clothes Press		18.00
Damages likely to occur to first Story, & for repairs of same,		120.00
New Metal roof to Gallery		67.00
Repairs of Basement Story		100.00
Excavation around 2 sides of Basement		400.00
Hauling and incidental expenses		150.00
		<u>\$3,464.02</u>

Harpers Ferry Armory)
3rd June 1858)

H. W. Clowe

For raising the Building One Story, and Other Alterations.

Source

Reel 27, V.1, p.63.

APPENDIX II

Photographs

(Five)

HARPERS FERRY, 1861, FROM BASE OF MARYLAND HEIGHTS

Harpers Ferry Negative No. HF-47.
From Gettysburg N. M. P.,
October 17, 1957.

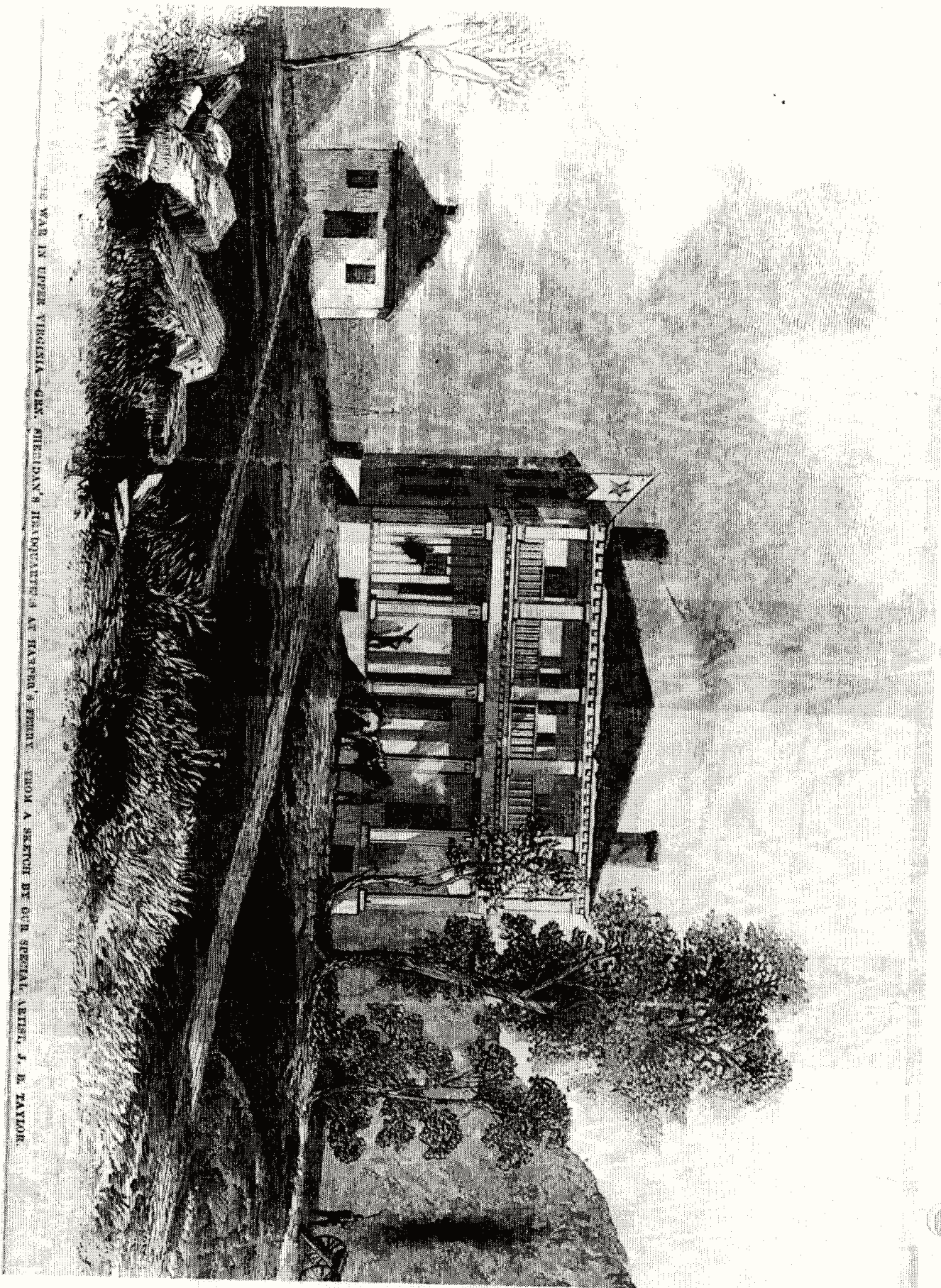
This photograph shows Camp Hill with a grove of trees on its crest behind which is hidden the paymaster's quarters. It illustrates the ground cover on Camp Hill before 1861 after which the trees were taken down by troops.



GENERAL SHERIDAN'S HEADQUARTERS AT HARPERS FERRY, 1864

Harpers Ferry Negative No. HF-341.
Sketch by J. E. Taylor.
Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper,
September 3, 1864, p.381.
From McDonald Collection #1,
Donated May 14, 1958.

This drawing shows the paymaster's quarters during the Civil War in 1864 when it was occupied by General Philip H. Sheridan as his headquarters. This is a view of the front or west side of the house, with a two story porch on the front, and of the north elevation. The small outbuilding which appears to the left or south of the main house is the one story brick store house, 18 by 20 feet, with wooden shingle roof, erected in 1847-48.

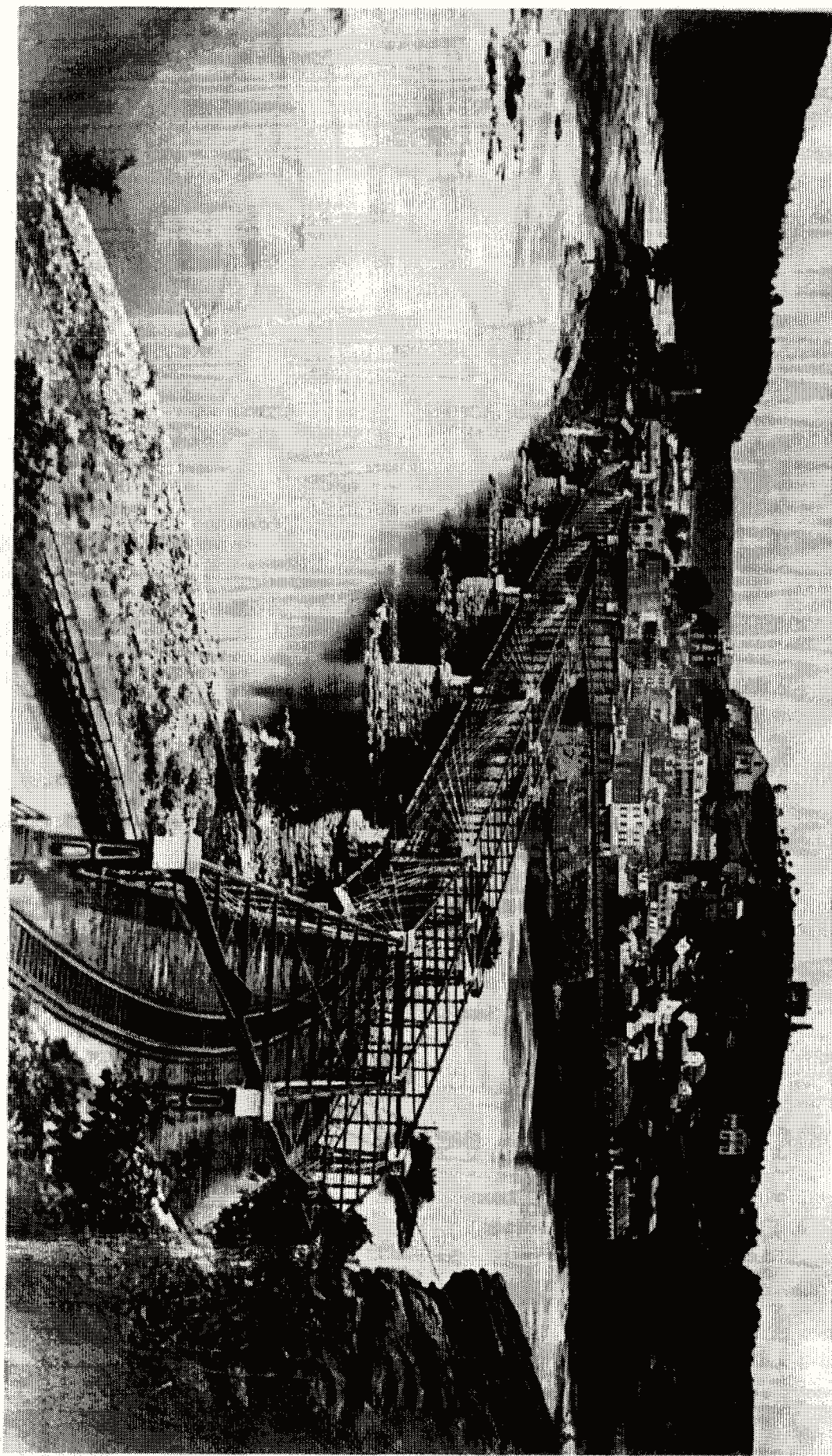


THE WAR IN UPPER VIRGINIA—GEN. SHERIDAN'S HEADQUARTERS AT HANOVER, VIRGINIA. FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, J. B. TAYLOR.

HARPERS FERRY FROM THE MARYLAND SHORE,
FROM JUST ABOVE THE RAILROAD BRIDGE, 1866.

Harpers Ferry Negative No. HF-78.

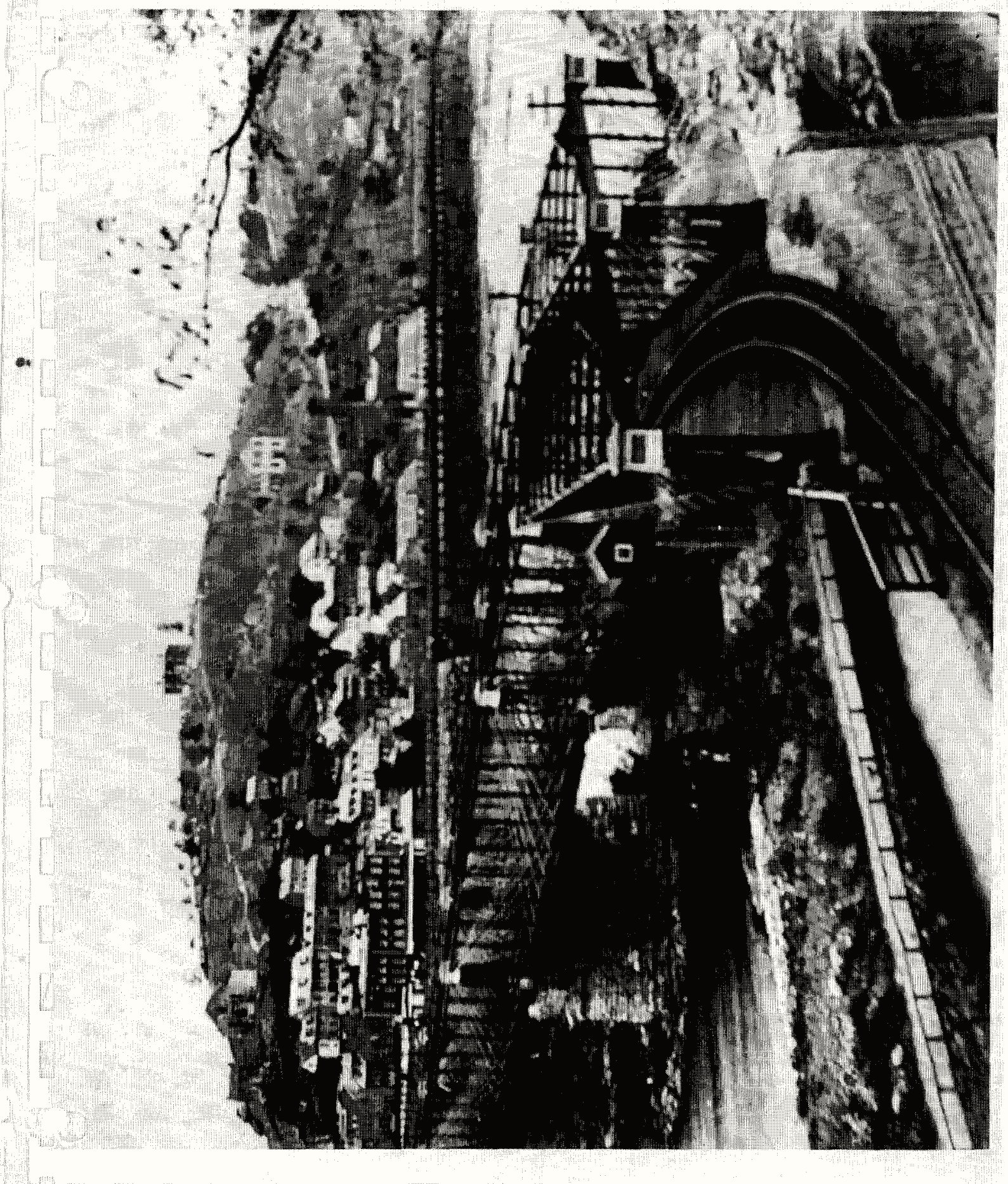
This photograph shows the paymaster's residence situated on the top of Camp Hill, in the right center of the photograph. All the trees around the building have been removed with the exception of one. Note the small porch that appears on the east side of the house, together with five windows.



HARPERS FERRY, W. VA., 1866⁷⁰.

Harpers Ferry Negative No. HF-352.
Sterioptican View #184.
Keystone View Co., Meadville,
Chicago, and Kansas City,
Showing Maryland end of Bollman Bridge, Harpers
Ferry in Background, Mat Finish, Sepia.
McDonald Collection #13.

This photograph shows a clear view of the paymaster's quarters on the crest of Camp Hill in the upper center of the photograph. The many trees that formerly stood about the house before 1861 have been removed. The building now has two stories.



AERIAL VIEW OF CAMP HILL AT HARPERS FERRY, 1932

Harpers Ferry Negative No. HF292.

Contributed by C. C. Moler.

The Paymaster's Clerk's house (or the Morrell House) appears in the lower center of the photograph in the center of the first grove of trees to the right or south of Fillmore Street. The third house above this building, also to the right of Fillmore Street, is the Superintendent's Clerk's house (or the McDonald House). The large three story building beyond this is the Paymaster's Quarters (or the Lockwood House). Note the third story which was added in 1894-1907 and also that the original two story porch had been reduced to a one story porch.

